Worksheet 7

- (1) Let n be a positive integer. Show that $f_Y(y) = (n+2)(n+1)y^n(1-y), 0 \le y \le 1$, is a pdf.
- (2) If Y is an exponential random variable, $f_Y(y) = \lambda e^{-\lambda y}, y \ge 0$, find $F_Y(y)$.
- (3) Let $f_Y(y) = \frac{3}{2}y^2, -1 \le y \le 1$. Find $P\left(|Y \frac{1}{2}| < \frac{1}{4}\right)$.
- (4) The length of time, Y, that a customer spends in line at a bank teller's window before being served is described by the exponential pdf $f_Y(y) = 0.2e^{-0.2y}, y \ge 0$.
 - (a) What is the probability that a customer will wait more than ten minutes?
 - (b) Suppose the customer will leave if the wait is more than ten minutes. Assume that the customer goes to the bank twice next month. Let the random variable X be the number of times the customer leaves without being served. Calculate $p_X(1)$.
- (5) Suppose $F_Y(y) = \frac{1}{12}(y^2 + y^3), 0 \le y \le 2$. Find $f_Y(y)$.
- (6) If the pdf for Y is

$$f_Y(y) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } |y| > 1\\ 1 - |y| & \text{if } |y| \le 1 \end{cases}$$

find and graph $F_Y(y)$.

(7) A random variable Y has cdf

$$F_Y(y) = \begin{cases} 0 & y < 1 \\ \ln y & 1 \le y \le e \\ 1 & e < y \end{cases}$$

Find

(a)
$$P(Y < 2)$$
 (b) $P(2 < Y \le 2.5)$ (c) $P(2 < Y < 2.5)$ (d) $f_Y(y)$

- (8) Suppose $f_Y(y) = 4y^3$, $0 \le y \le 1$. Find $P\left(0 \le Y \le \frac{1}{2}\right)$. Find the cdf for the random variable Y and calculate $P\left(0 \le Y \le \frac{1}{2}\right)$ using $F_Y(y)$. Define W = 2Y. Find $f_W(w)$. For which values of w is $f_W(w) \ne 0$?
- (9) One continuous pdf that has a number of interesting applications in physics is the *Rayleigh distribution*, where the pdf is given by

$$f_Y(y) = \frac{y}{a^2} e^{-y^2/2a^2}, \ a > 0; \ 0 \le y < \infty$$

Calculate the expected value for a random variable having a Rayleigh distribution.

(10) Find the median for each of the following pdfs:

(a)
$$f_Y(y) = (\theta + 1)y^{\theta}, 0 \le y \le 1$$
, where $\theta > 0$. (b) $f_Y(y) = y + \frac{1}{2}, 0 \le y \le 1$.

- (11) Find the expected value of a RV Y that has a uniform distribution.
- (12) In one of the early applications of probability to physics, James Clerk Maxwell, (1831 1879) showed that the speed S of a molecule in a perfect gas has a density function given by

$$f_S(s) = 4\sqrt{\frac{a^3}{\pi}} s^2 e^{-as^2}, \ s > 0,$$

where a is a constant depending on the temperature of the gas and the mass of the particle. What is the average *energy* of a molecule in a perfect gas?

(13) A random variable Y is described by the pdf

$$f_Y(y) = 2y, \ 0 \le y \le 1$$

What is the standard deviation of 3Y + 2?

- (14) Let Y be the random variable in Problem 1. Find Var(Y). For any positive integer k, find the kth moment around the origin.
- (15) Suppose that the random variable Y is described by the pdf $f_Y(y) = c \cdot y^{-6}$, y > 1. Find c. What is the highest moment of Y that exists?